

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Michael WRAY ) Re: Preliminary Amendment  
Serial No.: Not yet assigned )  
Filed: Concurrently herewith ) Our Ref: B-4052 618408-0  
For: "ELECTRONIC CERTIFICATE" ) Date: December 7, 2000

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Box New Patent Application  
Washington, D.C., 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-identified application, it is respectfully requested that the following amendments be made to the Claims and Abstract:

IN THE CLAIMS

Claim 9, Line 1      Please delete "or claim 6".

Claim 10, Line 1      Please change "any one of the preceding claims" to --claim 1--.

Claim 11, Lines 1-2   Please change "any one of the preceding claims" to --claim 1--.

Claim 12, Line 4      Please change "any one of claims 1 to 10" to --claim 1--.

Claim 13, Line 4      Please change "any one of claims 1 to 10" to --claim 1--.

IN THE ABSTRACT

Lines 5-6            Please delete "Method and Apparatus for Discovering  
a Trust Chain Imparting a Required Attribute to a  
Subject".

Line 10            Please delete "(70)".

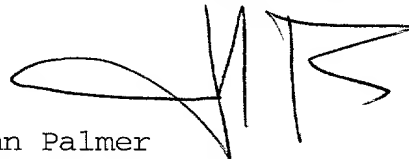
Line 17            Please delete "(Fig.5)".

REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment amends Claims 9-13 so that they are no longer multiply dependent. The Applicant may elect to amend Claims 9-13 to make them again multiply dependent or to add additional claims to this application to provide coverage similar to, broader than or narrower than the present claims at any time during the pendency of the above-identified U.S. application.

This Preliminary Amendment also amends the Abstract to correct various typographical errors.

Respectfully submitted,



John Palmer  
Reg. No. 36,885  
Attorney for Applicant  
LADAS & PARRY  
5670 Wilshire Boulevard #2100  
Los Angeles, California 90036  
(323) 934-2300